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# The South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine.

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VOL. XII.

JANUARY, 1911.

No. I.

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## THE BARONIES OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

By Henry A. M. Smith.

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### III.

#### THE CYPRESS BARONY.

Thomas Colleton, the second son of Sir John Colleton, one of the original Lords Proprietors of Carolina, was created a Landgrave on 28<sup>th</sup> May, 1681.<sup>1</sup> Under his Patent as Landgrave he was entitled to four baronies of 12,000 acres each, but so far as appears from the record only one barony seems to have been actually surveyed out and granted to him in South Carolina.

The grant for this 12,000 acres was issued 13<sup>th</sup> August, 1683. The Barony as thus granted, was situated at the head of the Eastern branch of Cooper River, and is denoted on the old plats and deeds that refer to it, as the "Cypress Barony."

Landgrave Thomas Colleton was very active in the settlement of the province, but does not appear to have himself ever actually resided or been in the Province, and at his death, which was prior to 1692, his Barony passed to his son, Landgrave Peter Colleton.<sup>2</sup> Landgrave Peter Col-

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<sup>1</sup>Off. Hist. Commis". "Grant Book F.," p. 13.

<sup>2</sup>Ibid, Book, "Sales, etc., 1680-1684," p. 66.

leton also does not appear to have resided in the province, and on 18<sup>th</sup> July, 1707, sold all his real and personal property in the province of South Carolina to John Gough, Dominick Arthur and Michael Mahon, for £800 in bank bills of the Island of Barbados. At that time he appears to have had upon the Barony, as set out in his deed of sale;

“one dwelling house, one kitchen, one barn and one  
“dairy and milk-house”

and also,

“six negro men one negro boy about 17 years of age  
“five negro women two suckling young children one  
“negro girl eight hundred head of cattle great & small  
“two teams of oxen two carts one plough and harrow  
“and five new saddles.”<sup>3</sup>

This sale ended the connection of the Colletons with this particular Barony. An account of the Colleton family, and of Landgraves Thomas and Peter Colleton, will be found in an article published in the first volume of this magazine for 1900.

According to the fundamental constitutions of Carolina, the barony of a Landgrave could not be sold away from the line of the holder of the title, but on 14<sup>th</sup> April, 1709, the Lords Proprietors gave express permission that this Barony of Landgrave Peter Colleton might be sold and divided among the purchasers.<sup>4</sup>

The purchasers seem then to have divided the Barony among themselves—executing mutual releases to each for their respective shares. Thus John Gough and Dominick Arthur on 13<sup>th</sup> July, 1709, executed a release to Michael Mahon, of all that part of the “Cipruss Barony” \* \* \* “now Call’d or Known by y<sup>e</sup> Name of y<sup>e</sup> Midle Settlement or “Lymerick Plantation containing three thousand five hundred acres of Land.”<sup>5</sup> No doubt similar releases were executed to John Gough and Dominick Arthur.

In addition to these releases and probably to more ef-

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<sup>3</sup>Ibid, Bk., “Grant Book F., 1707-1711,” p. 13.

<sup>4</sup>Ibid, Book, “Q. Q., 1685-1712,” p. 267-281.

<sup>5</sup>MSS. Deed in possession of Isaac Ball, Esq.

fectually assure their titles under the consent given to divide the Barony, the purchasers took each out a new grant for his share—the grants being all dated 12<sup>th</sup> October, 1709.<sup>6</sup>

To John Gough was granted 3,500 acres.

To Michael Mahon was granted 3,500 acres.

To Dominick Arthur was granted 5,000 acres.

It will be noted that as early as 13<sup>th</sup> July, 1709, the name "Limerick" was bestowed upon the share allotted to Michael Mahon. As Limerick was his native city, the name was probably given by him to his share of the Barony during the period from the purchase from Peter Colleton in 1707 and the release to Mahon in 1709. Michael Mahon seems to have soon returned to Barbados; and on the 12<sup>th</sup> Decr., 1713, he conveyed to Daniel Huger of Craven County, planter, for £800 current money of South Carolina, 3,415 acres, his share of the Barony, excepting therefrom 95 acres he had previously, on 30<sup>th</sup> February, 1709, conveyed to Dominick Arthur. The witnesses to this deed are all residents of the French settlements, viz: Elias Horry, Isaac Porcher Jun<sup>r</sup>, Gabriel Marion, Daniel Ravenel;<sup>7</sup> but his wife, Margaret Mahon, on 18<sup>th</sup> July, 1714, executed a renunciation of dower to Daniel Huger in "a plantation on the head of "Cooper river commonly known by the Name of Lymerick "plantation or the Midle Settlement and formerly part of "the Cipruss Barony" and recited that her husband was formerly of the County of Berkley in the Province of South Carolina, but then of the Island of Barbados.<sup>8</sup>

This Daniel Huger was the son of the first emigrant to South Carolina of that name.

To the 3,415 acres purchased from Michael Mahon, Daniel Huger added 320 acres off the Gough portion of the Barony, purchased by him on 21<sup>st</sup> January, 1737, from John Gough, Sen<sup>r</sup>, John Gough, Jun<sup>r</sup> and Richard Gough, for £2,720 current money;<sup>9</sup> and 794 acres (699 acres off

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<sup>6</sup>Secy. States' Off., Vol. 39, pp. 60-61.

<sup>7</sup>MSS Deed in possession of Isaac Ball, Esq.

<sup>8</sup>MSS. Renunciation in possession of the same.

<sup>9</sup>MSS. Deed in possession of Isaac Ball, Esq.

the Arthur portion and 95 acres conveyed in 1709-10 by Michael Mahon to Dominick Arthur) purchased by him on 30<sup>th</sup> May, 1739, for £1,796 current money, from Francis Roche;<sup>10</sup> and 35½ acres additional off the Arthur portion purchased by him on 31<sup>st</sup> Decr., 1741, for £177.10<sup>s</sup> current money, from Francis Roche;<sup>11</sup> thus vesting in Daniel Huger 4,564½ acres of the original Barony.

Daniel Huger lived during his life on the plantation known as Limerick and accumulated a fortune, which, according to the inventory made after his death placed him as one of the wealthiest men in the Province.

Limerick was his home and residence, and the record of his marriages, and the births of his children, and the burials at Limerick of those of his family who died, will be found in No. 4 of the Transactions of the Huguenot Society for South Carolina for the year 1897. There is no doubt but that he himself was buried there. D<sup>r</sup>. Irving, in his "Day on Cooper River" states that he lies buried there with his wife and several of his children, in the Huger cemetery, which is still reserved to the family.

Daniel Huger died in 1754; and by his Will<sup>12</sup> his plantations, called "Limerick" and "Rice Hope," including the lands bought of Messrs Gough and Roche, were devised to his eldest son Daniel Huger. He left a large estate in lands and slaves, and also five sons who might be considered a legacy to his country, as they all attained distinction in her service, viz:

Daniel, who was a delegate to the Continental Congress, 1786-1788, and a Representative in the Federal Congress, 1789-1793.

Isaac, who served as a Lieutenant in the Cherokee war, was Lieut.-Colonel of the 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment in 1776, Colonel of the 5<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the Continental Line, made Brigadier General on 9<sup>th</sup> June, 1779, and served with distinction throughout the whole Revolutionary struggle.

John, who was a member of the Commons House of Assembly anterior to the Declaration of Independence,

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<sup>10</sup>Ibid.

<sup>11</sup>Ibid.

<sup>12</sup>Prob. Ct. Charleston, Bk. 1752-1756, p. 282.

member of the Council of Safety, and after the war Intendant of the City of Charleston and Secretary of State for South Carolina.

Benjamin, who was a member of the Provincial Congress and Major of the 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment of Riflemen, and was killed on the 11<sup>th</sup> May, 1779, before the lines of Charleston when Prévost threatened the City.

Francis, who was a Captain in Moultrie's Regiment, and served in Fort Moultrie in 1776 during the attack of the British fleet, and was afterwards Lieut.-Colonel and Quartermaster-General in the Continental army.

Daniel Huger the third, to whom Limerick had been devised by his father, conveyed it on 12<sup>th</sup> March, 1764, to Elias Ball of St. Johns Parish, Berkley County, as containing 4,564½ acres.<sup>13</sup> Limerick continued to be owned by the Ball family for over a century and a quarter, not passing from their hands until after 1890.

The 3,500 acres of the Barony which fell to John Gough was the Westernmost part of the whole tract. He seems to have settled and lived on the property, and his family and descendants continued in South Carolina. As already stated, in 1737 John Gough with two of his sons, John Gough Jun<sup>r</sup>. and Richard Gough, joined in a conveyance to Daniel Huger of 320 acres. At the death of John Gough his property seems to have passed, under his Will, to his sons, John Gough, Richard Gough, Edward O'Neale Gough and Francis Gough.

On 22<sup>d</sup> March, 1740, Francis Gough conveyed to John Coming Ball, 670 acres<sup>14</sup> comprising what is known as "Kensington" plantation (although not so styled in the deed) and on the 11<sup>th</sup> February, 1747, Edward O'Neale Gough and Francis Gough conveyed to John Coming Ball 1,910 acres,<sup>15</sup> comprising what was afterwards known as "St. James" plantation (although not so styled in the deed).

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<sup>13</sup>MSS. Deed in possession of Isaac Ball, Esq.

<sup>14</sup>Off. Hist. Comm<sup>n</sup> Mem. Bk. 7, p. 493.

<sup>15</sup>Ibid.

These two plantations continued in the Ball family until 1846, when they were conveyed to D<sup>r</sup>. John B. Irving.

On 27<sup>th</sup> February, 1747, Richard Gough, as eldest brother and heir at law of his brother John, conveyed to Elias Ball 600 acres<sup>16</sup> which comprised the plantation known as "Hyde Park" plantation. So that with the later acquisition of Limerick plantation, all of the Cypress Barony allotted to Michael Mahon and John Gough, with 734½ acres off the Arthur portion, had become the property of members of the Ball family.

The 5,000 acres of the Barony allotted to Dominick Arthur, descended at his death to his nephew and heir-at-law Christopher Arthur.<sup>17</sup> Christopher Arthur conveyed on 7<sup>th</sup> May, 1724, 200 acres off to John Nicholson,<sup>18</sup> and probably conveyed off more of it to others. By his Will, dated 24<sup>th</sup> October, 1724, he devised his estate, real and personal, including all of the 5,000 acres which he might own at his death, and not otherwise disposed of by his Will, one-half to his "beloved kinsman Patrick Roche of the City of 'Limerick merchant son of my Uncle Francis Roche dec' "and Anstace Roche *alt* Arthur his wife"<sup>19</sup> and the other half to his nephew, Bartholomew Arthur.<sup>20</sup> In his Will it was directed that Patrick Roche should have in his half the 150 acres which were already cleared and settled, whereby the Northern half containing the 150 acres fell to his share. On the division between Patrick Roche and Bartholomew Arthur of the land, 1,886 acres fell to Patrick Roche<sup>21</sup> and 1,860 acres to Bartholomew Arthur.<sup>22</sup> Adding to this the 200 acres sold to John Nicholson would leave of the 5,000 acres, some 1,054 acres which had apparently been disposed of by either Dominick Arthur or Christopher Arthur previous to the death of the latter.

Patrick Roche died without a will and his land descended

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<sup>16</sup>Ibid, p. 508-509.

<sup>17</sup>M. C. O. Charleston, Bk. T., p. 58.

<sup>18</sup>Ibid, Bk. D., p. 64.

<sup>19</sup>Ibid, Bk. T., p. 58.

<sup>20</sup>Ibid, Bk. P., p. 1.

<sup>21</sup>Off. Hist. Comm<sup>n</sup>, Bk. 5, p. 115.

<sup>22</sup>Ibid., Bk. 6, p. 199.

to his eldest son, Francis Roche, who in 1739 sold off 699 acres and in 1741 35½ acres to Daniel Huger; and seems to have lived on the rest which became known as "Windsor" plantation. When it first acquired that name does not appear from the record, but probably during the ownership of the Roche's, and possibly when owned by Christopher Arthur.

The plantation at Francis Roche's death went to his son Ebenezer Roche, who died in 1783. His executors, Francis and Thomas Roche, sold the plantation on 6<sup>th</sup> July, 1784, to Edward Harleston,<sup>23</sup> reserving an one-half acre as enclosed for burial interment for the descendants of Ebenezer Roche. Edward Harleston, on 1<sup>st</sup> March, 1786, transferred the plantation to Joseph Brown<sup>24</sup> (a son-in-law of Rawlins Lowndes), who in turn on 12<sup>th</sup> February, 1788, transferred it to Major Evan Edwards,<sup>25</sup> by whom and whose widow, the place was held until 1840, when it was sold to D<sup>r</sup>. J. B. Irving.

Of this place, D<sup>r</sup>. Irving says, in his "Day on Cooper River," published in 1842:

"When this place was first possessed by Major Edwards, not only the swamps, but the grounds about the settlement were in a high state of improvement.

"Among other indications which betokened the luxurious mode of living in those days, there was a large park at Windsor well stocked with deer.

"The fine family mansion that stood on the hill, was destroyed by fire in 1815."

The portion of the Barony which under the Will of Christopher Arthur fell to Bartholomew Arthur, was by him sold away; first by a sale of 500 acres to Robert Quash, on 3<sup>d</sup> September, 1735,<sup>26</sup> and thereafter 1,361 acres to "Robert Brown of Goose Creek, Surgeon,"<sup>27</sup> who transferred to Thomas Wright, who transferred to Robert Quash, 337

<sup>23</sup>Irving, *Day on Cooper River*, p. 80.

<sup>24</sup>M. C. O. Charleston, Bk. C. No. 6, p. 65.

<sup>25</sup>Ibid, Bk. D. No. 6, p. 199.

<sup>26</sup>M. C. O. Charleston, Bk. P., p. 1.

<sup>27</sup>Ibid, Bk. S. S., p. 306.



acres in 1739, 234 acres in 1742 and finally 780 acres in November, 1757.<sup>28</sup>

In the last conveyance of 780 acres the plantation is conveyed under the name of "Fishbrook" plantation.

The plantation must therefore have acquired that name prior to 1757. Robert Quash thus became possessed of the entire 1,860 acres, which under the Will of Christopher Arthur had gone to Bartholomew Arthur. After the acquisition by Robert Quash, the whole as one plantation was well known by the name of "Fishbrook."

Robert Quash died in 1772, and by his Will devised "Fishbrook" to his eldest son, Robert Quash,<sup>29</sup> who dying in 1811 devised "Fishbrook" to his eldest son, Robert Hasell Quash,<sup>30</sup> who sold it some time about 1830. Counting from the first acquisition by the first Robert Quash in 1735, the Quash family had thus held the property for near a century.

Of Fishbrook, Dr. Irving, in his pamphlet above mentioned, says:

"It was for many years the family seat of the first 'Mr. Robert Quash.' (Dr. Irving really alluded to the second.) 'The hospitality of this gentleman is proverbial to the present day throughout the Parish. Many 'who in their youth and manhood partook of his 'cordial welcome, still live to speak of his unvarying 'goodness.—'He held feasts in his house like the feasts 'of a King.' Gladness and festivity were never out 'of season at Fishbrook, so long as he presided over 'its social board,'"

The plat of the Barony, published with this article, is made up from a compilation of various maps of the subdivisions. The Northeast, Northwest and Southwest lines are unquestionably correct. The Southeast line is so also to the point marked B. I have found no map continuing this line from B to C, which thus takes in a part of what

<sup>28</sup>Office Hist. Comm", Bk. 6, p. 199.

<sup>29</sup>Prob. Ct. Charleston, Bk. 1771-1774, p. 147.

<sup>30</sup>Ibid, Bk. E., p. 213.

has for many years been known as "Silk Hope" plantation. Unless, however, the line be so extended to C the area included within the lines will not contain 12,000 acres, the content of the Barony, nor will the share allotted to Dominick Arthur contain 5,000 acres.

The boundaries given in the description of the original grant to Sir Nathaniel Johnson of Silk Hope, in 1696, are too indefinitely phrased to decide the question and it has therefore been assumed as probable that this part of Silk Hope was acquired from Dominick or Christopher Arthur.